Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Hope Palmer < hgpalmer88@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 4, 2022 3:48 PM **To:** DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)

Cc: Speck, Randy (SMD 3G03); Higgins, John (SMD 3G02)

Subject: BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project/ Comments of Support

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Dear Chairman Hill,

My name is Hope Palmer. My husband, Hugh McDermott and I live at 6100 29th St. We are directly across the street from the Rittenhouse Alley that would border the proposed Maret field project.

We whole- heartedly support Maret's plans. Maret has gone above and beyond to make sure neighbors' concerns are addressed while also staying true to their commitment to both the Maret students and countless other city children who would benefit from the fields.

I was born and raised in DC and know first-hand how special and rare it is to have a safe, well maintained, green space for children to play sports.

My husband and I have a 2 year -old son and very much look forward to being able to send him just across the street one day to play for DC Soccer Club or one of the other DC youth athletic programs that Maret would be sharing the space with.

We are also very grateful for what this project would mean for the ECC. These lease payments will support the long - term viability of the ECC and allow it to continue its mission as a therapeutic school serving children with emotional disabilities and their families.

I urge the BZA and ANC members to please consider how many children (Maret students, all of the others who will participate in DC youth sport programs, and the children of the ECC) that would benefit greatly from this project. I understand there are a few neighbors who live close to the fields who have reservations but I think when weighed against the positive impact this will have on the lives of countless DC children...their concerns don't quite stack up.

Thank you, Hope Palmer

(202) 491- 3010 6100 29th St. NW Washington DC 20015 hgpalmer88@gmail.com hope.palmer@nbcuni.com